

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



Next Meeting October 12

Lorna Campbell, KA7RFD, Editor

1988 ARRL National Convention

Al, WB7SIC. Chairman (Retired)

WHAT A BARN BURNER!! Who could have predicted we would have over 4,000 people show up at the Red Lion. Sheer numbers were the words for the weekend. We sold out the 800 banquet seats almost a month in advance, over 850 total breakfasts served and about 340 lunches. We are aware of 410 room rentals and it is hard to tell how many more were overnighers. The variety of license plates seen was astounding. If an effort had been made, other than the Convention Station, you could have come close to WAS on 2 meters.

I had two disappointments. Many of the seminars were SRO and the other was the flea market. Hard to understand why so many didn't take advantage of all the advertising and set up a table or two. It sure wasn't the weather's fault! Great weekend! I mention meal attendance and hotel rooms because a great deal of our expense hinged on satisfying our contract with the Red Lion. The more of both the lower the exhibit hall rental charge. We qualified for the lowest rate!

There were no individual heroes at the Convention. It was an OUTSTANDING group effort. An effort which sur-

prised me. We had a lot of people on committees who had no prior experience with handling large numbers of people and I tell you this - I have not one complaint about ANY committee's performance. It was superb!

Six exhibitors stated that it was the most successful ARRL National they had ever attended. Reno Radio said they did more business here than they did last year at Dallas and I understand that Dallas is about an 8,000 ham show. Pretty heady stuff for us forgotten hams in the NW. Maybe SEA-PAC will get a boost out of the National. At least in adding more commercial exhibits.

The eleven clubs who loaned seed money have been repaid the original loan amounts and they can look forward to a healthy profit check sometime in late October. Just how healthy is not yet determined as some expenses remain to be paid.

I wish I could personally shake the hand of all of you who gave of your time and effort but I will have to use the print. Without every one of you there would have been no National in Portland. My sincerest congratulations on a job VERY well done. Anybody want to do it again?

October 12 Club Meeting

John, K7SHC

Patsy Barmore, KA7MZZ, Region 7 District Chairman of the Young Ladies Radio League will be our featured speaker at the October meeting. Assisting her will be Mary Lou Zehendner, WQ7V.

Both these ladies are members of the Hoodview ARC and are prominent in YLRL. Patsy is also responsible for writing the Region 7 news for the Harmonics Newsletter.

This program promises to be of interest to all members and offers a great opportunity to invite your wife, girl friend or any ladies you know as guests for the evening. Hopefully this will spark their interest in Ham Radio.

Heard Around The Club

Lorna, KA7RFD

Congratulations to our Vice President, John Ewing, K7SHC who recently obtained his Extra Class license and John Salisbury, KB7DHR who passed his Advanced at the National Convention testing session.

Welcome to new member, Earl Hooke, KE7XK, who joined us at the September meeting. We'll have a biography in next month's issue.

A Commodore computer was presented to Greg, W7AGQ at the September meeting. For those of you not aware, Greg's home and many possessions were severely damaged in a fire in June. The presentation was made from money from the Health and Welfare fund.

Special thanks to the person who anonymously donated three prizes for the September raffle. We appreciate it.

If you were part of the mass exodus the Monday after the National, hope you had a good vacation and are all rested up ready to start again.

QST All Hams

Jackie Aderman

(Ed's note: The following article was prompted by the recent visit of a Japanese Exchange Student who was an amateur radio operator and was given assistance by some members of OTVARC.)

"88" means "love and kisses". In "1988", you have an opportunity to host an Exchange Student from Japan, Spain, Germany, or one of many countries in Europe, Asia or Latin America through American Institute for Foreign Study.

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Jackie Aderman

Local Coordinator

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OTVARC Club Dine Out

Saturday, October 22

6:00PM Seating

6:30PM Dinner

NEW YORK DINER

11875 SW Beaverton-Hillsdale Highway
(Next to Roses)

Choice of Entrees:

Baked Chicken \$6.95 Prime Rib \$8.95

Halibut Steak \$9.95

Questions: Call the Social Committee

Pat 649-0837 Marvel 292-3261

Bobbi 645-4188

The OTVARC NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, its officers, advertisers or Newsletter Committee.

Articles may be submitted to: Lorna Cambell, KA7RFD, Editor, 9890 S.W. Inglewood, Portland, Oregon 97225.

Cutoff date for all newsletter material is the 20th of the preceding month.

Dues for OTVARC membership are \$10.00 per year and are prorated quarterly. There is a one-time initiation fee of \$2.00. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge, 3500 S.W. 104th Avenue and start at 7PM. A buffet dinner is served at 6:15PM.

All correspondence other than for this newsletter should be sent to: Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Post Office Box 25545, Portland, Oregon 97225-0545.

DX For Beginners And Others

Greg, W7AGQ

What a great convention! One foreign DXer sought me out. He said he'd been to a lot of conventions but the Portland ARRL National was the best he'd ever attended.

One of the interesting discussions at the DX Breakfast and the DX Forum centered on what is a country. At a result, it looks like we'll have a flurry of activity from what may be "new countries".

The DXCC Rules contain certain criteria describing just what a DX country is. DXCC is, of course, the ARRL sponsored DX Century Club. Credit is given for working 100 or more countries (up to about 318). For instance, Alaska and Hawaii are two of our 50 states but they are separate countries for DX purposes. There are certain gray areas however.

A hot topic of conversation concerned the recent operation from what is known as MV Island. This a Soviet Island that is leased by Finland. A group of Finnish and Russian hams recently participated in a DXpedition there. Some say it qualifies as a new country. Others say it does not. Adding fuel to the controversy is a 1970 ARRL DX letter granting new-country status to the first operation from MV Island (this was the first operation). The decision has yet to be made.

The DX Forum had a number of interesting and controversial presentations. The one that may result in the most DX activity had to do with a slight change in the language concerning island nations and their remotely located possessions. Some at the Forum predict that as many as 12 or 13 islands may now qualify as new countries. It looks like we need the services of a lawyer, geographer and a travel agent.

There is a good news aspect in this for us here on the West Coast. It looks like most of these new countries are in the South or Western Pacific Ocean. For a change we won't have to fight the East Coast curtain. Also distance and an all-water path is a great help.

If you are interested in working some DX, a prime opportunity is coming up soon. October 29 and 30 (Universal Time) are the dates for the CQ Magazine World Wide DX Contest. You won't be required to get into a lengthy QSO (5 x 9 or whatever the report plus your CQ Zone number is all that is required). You will get a good chance to see who is

on the band and discover a lot about propagation.

Details of the contest are available in the September issue of CQ Magazine or just listen in and you'll pick up the hang of it in no time. In fact, you may be better off listening and not operating for the first couple of hours anyway. You will find bedlam at first with everyone trying to out-shout the next guy. After a while things settle down a bit and you will feel comfortable jumping right in. Some people have even been known to work DXCC in a single weekend contest. It's hard to do but possible.

73 (and 88 where appropriate).

1% Rebate From Portland Radio Supply

Susan, N7EPE

Portland Radio offers OTVARC a 1% rebate on the amount of purchases by club members. I'm happy to report that I've received in the mail a credit. The credit reads \$14,722.00 in total purchases for a 1% rebate of \$147.22. This money is then put into the raffle fund.

We would all like to thank P.R. for the program and those who participated.

To those who are not aware of the rebate program, if you make a purchase at P.R. just mention that you are an OTVARC member and the club receives 1% of credit on the purchase price.

'Tis The Season

Bobbi

December is fast approaching. A lot of fun and fellowship go into making our Christmas party a success each year. Please contact Pat, KA7UFG, Marvel, KA7TZT or myself if you want to be included in the group of special people who will make this year's party the highlight of the year.

We will meet soon to give everyone an opportunity to choose the work team they wish to join. The fun begins with the first committee meeting and continues through to the end of the Christmas party. Don't miss a minute of it. Call now.

Attention Otvarc Travelers

Tony, KA7ZDE

There has been some confusion over the dates for the October campout. The dates are Oct. 14, 15, 16 and the location is Spruce Run. See you there?

Words From The President

Roger, K7RXV

The Beaverton Elks lodge has been a very good host to us over the last several years. They have required only that we purchase a minimum amount of meals at our meeting for free use of the meeting room. We have been only buying a very small amount of meals and because of the unpredictability of the number of meals they have to throw a large amount of food away after our meetings. To control this waste we have been asked if we would buy our meals from their standard line in the dining room. There will be someone in the meeting room to sell meal tickets and serve coffee the same as in the past, however, we will take the ticket to the regular serving line. This will reduce cost and waste for the Elks without any change on the availability of meals at the meeting. We still need to make an effort to purchase meals if at all possible to show our appreciation to the Elks for the use of their facilities.

Since the beginning of OTVARC there has always been a small group of people who always seem to be involved in doing all the chores that need to be done to keep the club operating. The rest of the members are more than willing to let this go on year after year. The end result of this is that the doers eventually get burnt out and less and less gets done. We are at a critical time in this process if we are to remain active in all the things that we are presently involved in. The contest committee is no longer in existence because no one was willing to take responsibility for these activities. There has been a request for volunteers to take the responsibility for being the newsletter editor for several months now. Also the nominations committee is again having to dig to get people to run for a club office. These are all manifestations of the apathy that pervades much of our society today. If the club wants these and other functions to continue, the members must get involved and provide the time and effort to accomplish these tasks. Most of these tasks take a small amount of effort and time each month, however if they are all put together with only a few to do it all a large effort is required. I

personally feel that if the members are not interested enough to provide the manpower to do these functions that the membership doesn't really want these things such as club contesting and a first class club newsletter to exist.

If that is the case, since my responsibility as club president is to manage the club in the way that the majority of the membership wants the club operated regardless of my personal preferences, that these unsupported benefits and activities should cease to exist. So if the membership wants these or any other activities or benefits to continue or wants additional activities done you as members must support them with effort and time.

Newsletter Editor Urgently Needed

If you are willing to take over the position of Newsletter Editor, or are willing to form a committee to take over this important aspect of our club, please contact me or any other Board member.

As much assistance as you need will be given to get you started. Thank you.

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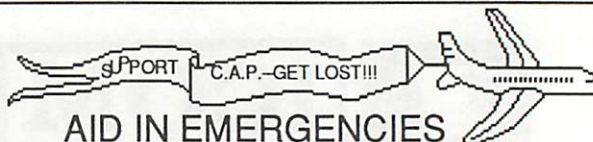
Volunteers Needed

The Dougy Center

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for children and their
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We need daytime and evening volunteers.
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